Compassion in Words and Silence: Working with Patients and Families

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Being a presence, support, and advocate to patients and families during the end-of-life journey is a blessed interaction of compassionate words and silence. A helping professional is acutely aware of the sensitivity and responsiveness needed in each unique experience with the patient and loved ones. This workshop will focus on enriching our interpersonal relatedness skills for those in need of care. We will be discussing issues of: (1) being comfortable with mortality; (2) thinking about our role; (3) experiencing humility on the journey; (4) assessing the psychosocial needs; (5) choosing interventions of words and/or silence; and (6) role playing and critiquing these experiences.